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STAR OF MYSORE

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MYSURU Sunday 18th May 2025
City Offices: K.R. Circle Ph: 2431774
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Defective restoration of Clock Tower to be fixed

Officials, heritage experts visit Doddagadiyara, K.R. Circle, Town Hall

MCC Commissioner Shaikh Tanveer Asif, Deputy Director of Archaeology, Museums and Heritage Manjula, retired Mysore University Professor of Ancient History and Archaeology Prof. N.S. Rangaraju, MCC Superintending Engineer K.J. Sindhu and MCC Zone-6 Assistant Executive Engineer Venkatesh and others inspecting the Silver Jubilee Clock Tower.

Mysuru, May 18 (RK&BCT)- Key missing elements in the restoration of the Silver Jubilee Clock Tower (Doddagadiyara), opposite Town Hall, will soon be addressed to restore its former glory. During an inspection of the Clock Tower, Town Hall and K.R. Circle on May 14, several lapses in the renovation were identified, prompting authorities to assure corrective action. The inspection aimed to verify if restoration adhered to conservation norms.

The team included Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) Commissioner Shaikh Tanveer Asif, Deputy Director of Archaeology, Museums and Heritage Manjula, retired University of Mysore Professor of Ancient History and Archaeology Prof. N.S. Rangaraju, MCC Superintending Engineer K.J. Sindhu and MCC Zone-6 Assistant Executive Engineer Venkatesh.

Prof. Rangaraju noted that during the restoration of the 75-ft-tall Silver Jubilee Clock Tower — built in 1927 to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of King Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar's reign — four decorative pillar-like structures surrounding the clock had been removed due to the workers' lack of heritage restoration expertise.

(See CLOCK TOWER on page 6)

Kodagu braces for heavy rains this monsoon

10,922 people (2,955 families) at risk; 88 villages vulnerable; 83 relief centres set up

A mock drill was held at Harangi Reservoir in Kodagu last Thursday to demonstrate rescue operations during rain-related disasters. Officials from various departments took part, following Central and State Government directives.

24x7 Emergency Helplines:
08272-221077/ 08272-221099
Dedicated WhatsApp Number:
85500-01077 for sharing photos, requesting assistance & sending alerts

Kushalnagar, May 18 (AG&BCT)- With the India Meteorological Department (IMD) predicting above-average heavy to very heavy rainfall during the upcoming South-West Monsoon beginning early June, the Kodagu District Administration has identified 88 villages as vulnerable to weather-related disasters like landslides and floods. An estimated 10,922 residents from 2,955 families may be affected.

(See KODAGU on page 6)

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Sunday 18th May 2025

Women's Police Company in State Reserve Police units

Mysuru, May 18 (SPN&BS)- In a major decision towards involving women in forward Policing, the State Government has issued orders to form exclusive Women's Police Company in the State Reserve Police forces to contain various types of clashes and protests.

This follows the recommendation of DG and IGP, who had observed that, it is essential to involve women Police Officers and personnel to control the situation during various types of protests being staged under the leadership of women.

Following this, K.N. Vanaja, Under Secretary, Internal Administration Department (Police Expenses), has issued an order to form Women's Police Companies.

Karnataka State Reserve Police units are a charging forces and it is very much essential to have Women Police Officers and personnel to control the situation during the protests and movements. The provisions should be made for 141 positions in each units, including one Special Reserve Police Inspector, four Special Reserve Police Sub-Inspectors, 12 Special Reserve Assistant Sub-Inspectors, 36 Special Reserve Head Constables, 76 Special Reserve Constables and 12 orderlies, according to the order.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

THE CHOICE TO ADOPT SPECIAL ATTRIBUTES: ***An individual has three qualities or gunas: sattvic, rajas and tamas, wired into his system. Until he gains mastery over the sensory organs, these three qualities show up intermittently as per his thoughts and behaviour. Krishna says in the Gita that the person who remembers Him constantly, is equipoised, does not have any enemy, sees Krishna in everything and vice versa, that person is dear to Him and will surely come to Him. So it is up to the individual to mould himself into this desired sattvic state.***

The sattvic personality is God fearing, acts without expectations and only to please the Almighty, is cheerful and balanced, has the excellent virtues of service, honesty, compassion, and goodwill towards everyone. Rajas is impatient, restless, attached to seeking sensory pleasures and does actions for reward and shows anger when expectations are not met. Tamas is the state of boredom, laziness, ignorance, excessive attachment, along with indifference towards gaining spiritual knowledge.

The scriptures categorise even the foods accordingly, and advise a sattvic diet to develop the same nature in oneself. The principle of ahimsa is the foundation for propagation of sattvic food. It is also said that one should be careful as to where one eats the food as food imbibes the qualities of the person serving it. In Mahabharata, when Draupadi was suffering immense indignity at the hands of Dushyasana, veterans like Bheeshma and Drona kept silent — seemingly out of fear of prince Duryodhana, but subconsciously due to the effect of the food served at vile Duryodhana's palace.

When Bheeshma nally lay on the bed of arrows and requested for water, Duryodhana jumped to offer him water in a golden vessel. But Bheeshma rejected it saying that due to the food that he had partaken of at Duryodhana's palace he had done regretful acts of commission and omission, but all that blood had owed away due to Arjuna's arrows, and he did not want to be deled again.

Arjuna then shot an arrow into the ground and brought forth the Ganga water — Ganga Devi being Bheeshma's mother herself — straight into his grandfather's mouth. Krishna himself once had refused an offer of food at Duryodhana's palace and visited sattvic Vidhura's house and accepted the loving offerings.

—Sandhya Vasudev in Deccan Herald

NEWS SPARKLERS

Couple replaces paper invitations with edible alternative

Manila: A couple has gone viral for their unique wedding invitations and people are eating it up.

When Jazmin Reyes and her fiancé Miguel Sotto were wedding planning, they knew they wanted to do something novel for their invitations.

"I wanted the experience of our wedding to start with the invites, and we wanted something more unique than just paper," Reyes shared on social media.

So with the help of design company Bridal Brandbook, the couple sent their guests loaves of bread from Daniel Bakery in Manila as their wedding invite — and the designer really rose to the occasion.

Each invite was a tall loaf of white bread, stamped with the couple's wedding logo on the side and wrapped in plastic so the logo was visible.

A rare snail is filmed laying egg from its neck

Wellington: Footage of the snail laying an egg from its neck has been captured for the first time, the country's conservation agency said Wednesday.

What looks like a tiny hen's egg is seen emerging from an opening below the head of the Powelliphanta augusta snail, a threatened species endemic to New Zealand.

The video was taken at a facility on the South Island's West Coast, where conservation rangers attempting to save the species from extinction have cared for a population of the snails in chilled containers for nearly two decades.

The conditions in the containers mimic the alpine weather in their only former habitat — a remote mountain they were named for, on the West Coast of the South Island, that has been engulfed by mining.

HEALTH CAPSULE

The combination of increased sun exposure, sweating, and more open pores can lead to an increase in acne. Dirt and oil from your hands can transfer to your face. They get trapped by open pores and sweat, resulting in breakouts.

By Dr. Ravi S. – Consultant Dermatology & Cosmetologist - Manipal Hospital, Mysore

manipalhospitals LIFE'S ON

**** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature***

TiE Mysuru to host Masterclass on AI & Business Automation

Mysuru, May 18- The TiE Mysuru Chapter will host an insightful Masterclass on "How to Use AI & Agents for Automation & Massive Business Growth," featuring Anirudh Narayan, Co-founder & Chief Growth Officer at Lyzr.ai, on May 24 between 4.30 pm and 6.30 pm at Jyothi Hall, Hotel Southern Star, in city.

Anirudh

This session is designed to help entrepreneurs, startups and business professionals harness the power of modern AI tools and intelligent agents to scale faster and operate smarter. For registration, visit: ***https://bit.ly/TiEMysuruMay25*** or contact TiE Mysuru Executive Director Mahesh Kattale on Mob: 94481-54063.

Entries invited for Pratibha Puraskar

Mysuru, May 18- The Mysore Merchants Co-operative Bank in city has invited applications from meritorious children of the Bank members who have scored more than 70 percent marks in SSLC and PUC (2024-25) for presentation of Pratibha Puraskar.

The eligible children of the Bank members can apply along with a copy of their marks card and two passport size photos at the Bank office on Jaganmohan Palace Road, before June 2.

Applications are also invited from children of Bank members who have taken part in District, State and National-level sports competitions, for receiving a cash reward of Rs. 5,000 each.

For details, contact Ph: 0821-2522759 or 2421077 or 2432938.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284 feet**	Maximum **2,859 feet**
Today's level **89.79 feet**	Today's level **2,261.42 feet**	Today's level **2,831.65 feet**
Last year's level **80.40 feet**	Last year's level **2,257.02 feet**	Last year's level **2,822.98 feet**
Yesterday's level **90.18 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,261.68 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,831.65 feet**
Today's Inflow **174 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **143 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **130 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **2,716 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **1,200 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **100 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- ***Peacocks take years to develop colourful tail feathers.***
- ***Peacocks can be fully white. Some have subtler tail displays.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Wife reported loss of husband to the Police.

"I have lost my husband. He is 6ft. tall, very fat and fair."

The Police man looked up surprised. *"Mrs. Britto I know your husband. He is short, thin and dark."*

Wife: *"Don't I know it?" who wants him back?*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 85.60
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 113.69
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 23.28
1 Euro	= Rs. 95.40

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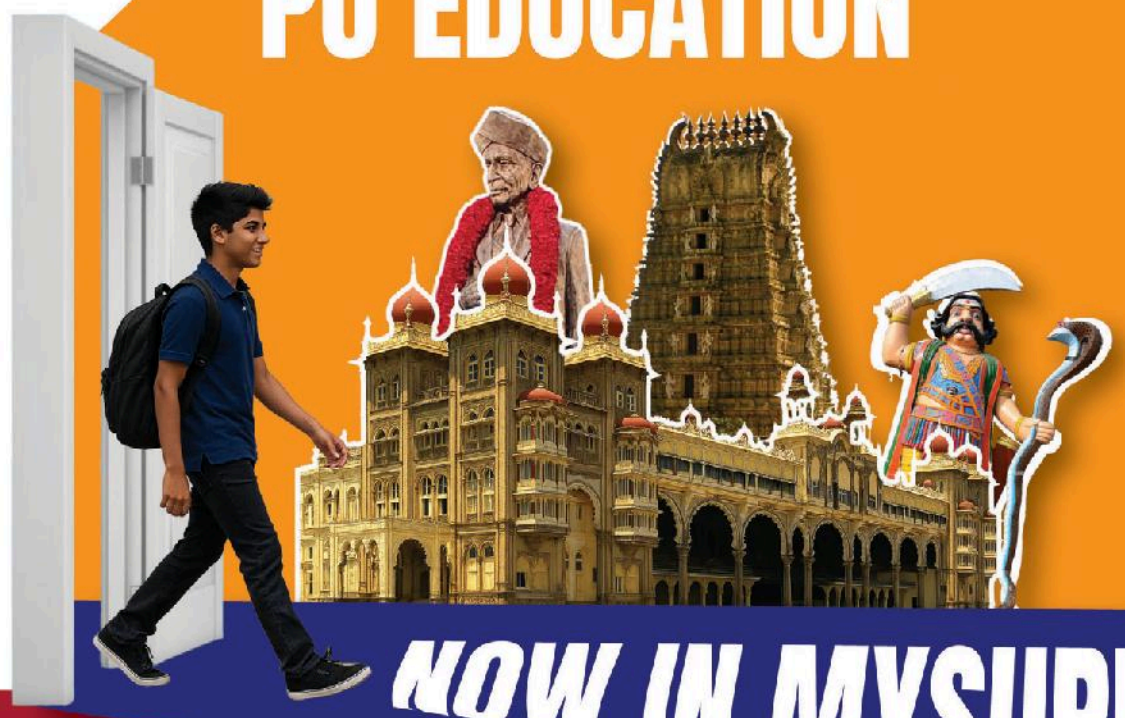

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NEWS BRIEFS

Unsold liquor, beer destroyed

The Excise Department officials destroyed 22.350 litres of liquor and 4098.580 litres of beer that remained unsold at Karnataka State Beverages Corporation Limited (KSBCL) depot at Koorgalli recently. Excise Deputy Superintendent H.K. Ramesh, Depot Excise Inspector Saraswathi, Depot Manager and other staff were present.

Applications invited for scholarship

City's Sri Vaishnava Sabha, having office at Kantharaj Urs Road, K.G. Koppal, Saraswathipuram, has invited applications from eligible students belonging to Hebbar Vaishnava community who are joining 1st year Engineering (B.E.) course, for distribution of student scholarship. The application can be submitted at the Sabha office before June 5. For details, contact Mob: 94801-94204 or visit the Sabha Office between 5.30 pm and 7.30 pm.

IPL 2025

TODAY'S MATCHES MAY 18

RR Vs **PBKS**
Sawai Mansingh Stadium, Rajasthan, **3.30 pm**

DC Vs **GT**
Arun Jaitley Stadium, Delhi, **7.30 pm**

TOMORROW'S MATCH MAY 19

LSG Vs **SRH**
Ekana Cricket Stadium, Lucknow, **7.30 pm**

YESTERDAY'S RESULT

RCB Vs **KKR**
(Match Abandoned)

Live telecast on: **Star Sports Network & JioHotstar**

Kodagu contractor murder case

Three arrested; blackmail is motive, say Police

Madikeri, May 18 (PS&BCT)- Kodagu district police have successfully solved the murder of Sampath, also known as Shambhu, a wealthy contractor and the prime accused in the 2016 egg-hurling incident targeting Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's car in Madikeri, back when Siddaramaiah was the Opposition Leader.

Sampath

Three persons have been arrested in connection with the murder: Kiran, his wife Sangeetha and Ganapathi of Kushalnagar, who was also named in the earlier egg-throwing case. Kodagu Superintendent of Police K. Ramarajan confirmed that the murder was the result of a blackmail plot.

Background and blackmail angle

Shambhu, who lived near Kakkehole Junction in Somwarpet Taluk, had separated from his wife a few years ago and was residing alone in a rented house in Kushalnagar.

According to the Police, Shambhu had developed relationships with multiple women, allegedly coerced them into physical intimacy, and later used video recordings to blackmail them into continuing the relationships.

In a similar turn of events, Shambhu reportedly gained access to compromising photos and videos of his friend Kiran's wife, Sangeetha. He allegedly began blackmailing her as well.

In retaliation, Kiran and Sangeetha reportedly attacked Shambhu in public.

A case was filed against them at the Kushalnagar Police Station in 2023. Shambhu was subsequently jailed, later released on bail, and responded by filing an attempted murder case against the couple.

According to the police, Shambhu demanded Rs. 20 lakh from Kiran and Sangeetha to withdraw the case. Although the three had agreed during a reconciliation meeting to drop cases against one another, Shambhu allegedly reneged and continued to blackmail Sangeetha using her photos, while persisting with his extortion demand.

Enraged and desperate, Kiran, Sangeetha and Shambhu's acquaintance Ganapathi allegedly conspired to kill him. On May 9, Sangeetha reportedly called Shambhu and invited him to her house under the pretext of a meeting. Shambhu borrowed a car from his friend John instead of using his own to avoid being identified.

When Shambhu arrived at Kiran's residence, he was allegedly attacked and hacked to death with machetes by Kiran and Ganapathi.

Body dumped in forest

After the murder, the trio reportedly placed Shambhu's body inside the same car he had used and dumped it into a forested gorge near Kallahalli in Sakleshpur Taluk. They then drove a short distance in the car before abandoning it and returning in another vehicle.

A missing person report was filed at Kushalnagar Police Station after Shambhu's disappearance. On May 10, the abandoned car was found near Kallahalli, and on May 14, his decomposed body was discovered deep in the forested area.

Following an intensive investigation, Kodagu Police arrested Kiran, Sangeetha and Ganapathi. Further inquiry is ongoing.

Part time job fraud: Accused from MP, denied bail by CJM court

Mysuru woman is victim

Mysuru, May 18 (KS)- City's CJM Court has rejected the bail application of the accused, who had allegedly cheated a city woman over Rs. 6 lakh on the pretext of providing part time job.

The accused, whose bail application was rejected, is Himanku Chowrasia of Madhya Pradesh.

On July 24, 2024, a city woman received message on her WhatsApp number from a stranger informing her about part time job. The stranger then told the woman, that if she invests Rs. 6,000, he would give her double the money the next day. Believing the stranger, the woman invested Rs. 6,000. The next day, the stranger informed the woman that if she invests more money she would get double the next day and got a total of Rs. 6,10,831 transferred from her Bank account in phases but failed to return the promises money, thus cheating her.

The woman then lodged a complaint at city's CEN Police Station. Superintendent of Police (SP) N. Vishnuvardhana, who investigated, arrested accused Himanku Chowrasia in Madhya Pradesh and brought him to Mysuru. He was produced before a Court in city on Apr. 29 and a report was submitted to the Court.

Meanwhile, the advocate for the accused moved a bail application at the Court and senior Public Prosecutor K. Prakash submitted his objections and urged the Court not to release the accused on bail.

Judge Nagaraj Siddappa Ankasadoddi, who heard the arguments from both sides, rejected the bail application of the accused.

Unidentified bodies found

Mysuru, May 18 (KS)- In separate cases, the Mysuru Railway Police have found bodies of unidentified persons in their jurisdictions and have registered cases.

In the first case, the Mysuru Railway Police, on May 15, have found a body of an unidentified woman, who was run over by a train between MNGT and Naganahalli Railway Stations.

The deceased is between 40 and 45 years, 5 ft. tall, normal built, oval faced, the body has been decomposed and was wearing a black and white dotted pink nighty.

In the second case, an unidentified man, who was run over by a moving train, was found on May 9 and the body has been shifted to MMC&RI mortuary.

The deceased is aged between 50 and 55 years, 5.3 ft. tall, light brown complexioned, normal built, round faced, bald, sports moustache and was wearing a light blue coloured full arm shirt and black pant.

The kith and kin of the above deceased persons, if any, may contact Mysuru Railway Police Station on Ph: 0821-2516579, according to a press release.

Obituary

Kollira Kuttappa

Mysuru, May 18-Kollira Kuttappa (91), an ex-serviceman and a resident of No. 21, Block 27, BEML Layout in Srirampura 2nd Stage, passed away at a private hospital in city this morning.

A native of Kuttandi village in Ponnampet taluk, he leaves behind his wife Shanthi Bollamma (Bommanda), children Suraj, Suman and Reena and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at the foot of Chamundi Hill this afternoon.

Chandira Biddappa

Chandira Biddappa (93), an ex-serviceman and a resident of No. 34, MIG, HUDCO 2nd Stage in Bannimantap, passed away in the wee hours of today in city.

He leaves behind his wife Shanthi (Kekada), two sons, daughters-in-law, grand-children and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at the foot of Chamundi Hill this afternoon.

Ittira Thangamma

Ittira Thangamma (98), daughter of late Ittira Achappa and a resident of No. 72, 2nd Block, 6th Main, Jayalakshmipuram,

passed away yesterday in city.

She leaves behind her sisters, sisters-in-law and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were held at Chirashanthidhama in Gokulam this morning.

C. Shankrappa

C. Shankrappa (70), retired employee of Vijaya Bank and a resident of Aniketana Road in Kuvempunagar, passed away yesterday in city.

Assistant Secretary of Aniketana Residents Association, he leaves behind his wife Chikkamma, son Harish, grand-children and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at the foot of Chamundi Hill this afternoon.

Gurudatta Prabhu

Gurudatta Prabhu (49), a resident of Shivarampet passed away yesterday in city.

He leaves behind his parents, wife and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at the foot of Chamundi Hill yesterday, according to family sources.

VOICE OF THE READER

Challenges posed by street food vendors

Ripe time to take decisive action

Sir,

I am writing to express my growing concern over the increasing number of street food vendors in our city and the significant challenges this trend is posing to public health and urban infrastructure. While these vendors offer convenience to some residents, they are also contributing to several pressing issues that require immediate attention from the authorities.

1. Traffic congestion and encroachment on public spaces: The proliferation of food carts and stalls along busy streets has led to severe traffic congestion and the obstruction of pedestrian pathways. Vendors often occupy not just the roadside but also footpaths, making pedestrian movement difficult and hazardous.

This encroachment worsens traffic conditions and creates dangerous bottlenecks. It is imperative that traffic authorities ensure pedestrian paths remain unobstructed and that street vendors are prevented from occupying public thoroughfares.

2. Public health and food safety concerns: There is growing concern about the hygiene and safety standards of food sold by street vendors. Many operate without regulatory oversight, raising serious questions about the cleanliness of food preparation and the quality of ingredients used.

With increasing reports of foodborne illnesses linked to street food, it is essential that health authorities closely monitor these vendors and enforce strict hygiene and safety standards to protect public health.

3. Environmental pollution from cooking practices: The environmental impact of certain street vendors, especially those using open flames and grills, cannot be ignored. These cooking practices contribute to air pollution by releasing smoke and harmful fumes into public spaces, posing environmental and human health risks.

This issue is particularly concerning in areas where non-vegetarian food is prepared. Given the city's ongoing struggle with air quality, regulatory action is needed to curb pollution from such activities.

4. Lack of regulation and tax compliance: Many street food vendors operate informally, without licenses or tax compliance, depriving the city of valuable revenue that could be used to improve infrastructure and services. Establishing clear regulatory frameworks and ensuring tax compliance would foster greater accountability while supporting the local economy.

5. Need for immediate action: Given these concerns, I urge the relevant departments to take the following immediate measures:

• Implement a formal licencing system to ensure vendors adhere to hygiene and safety standards.

• Conduct regular inspections of food quality and preparation practices.

• Ensure vendors contribute to the local economy through tax compliance.

• Enforce clear separation between pedestrian and vehicular zones to prevent encroachment.

• Regulate cooking practices in public spaces to minimise environmental impact.

These steps will not only address the current challenges but also contribute to safer and cleaner streets, improved public health, reduced traffic congestion and a more structured and transparent local economy.

I trust that the authorities concerned will respond promptly and take effective action for the well-being of all city residents and the sustainable development of our urban spaces.

—Dr. G. Rathnakar

Mysuru

3.5.2025

Weekend gridlock: Endless waits at Bengaluru-Mysuru Highway toll plazas

Mysuru, May 18 (BLU&VNS)- Planning a weekend trip to Bengaluru or Mysuru? Think twice before hitting National Highway-275 (Bengaluru-Mysuru Highway), as hour-long delays at toll plazas are leaving thousands of commuters stranded in traffic chaos.

Every weekend, the Highway sees a massive influx of vehicles, with Bengaluru residents travelling towards Mysuru, Chamarajanagar, Kodagu, Tamil Nadu and Kerala to relax at tourist destinations.

The surge begins on Friday evening, peaks through Saturday and worsens again on Sunday evenings as travellers return, often crawling through traffic till midnight.

The worst-hit points are the Sheshagirihalli (in Mandya) and Kaniminike toll plazas (two toll plazas near Bidadi), where massive snarls stretch for kilometres. A normally two-hour journey often turns into a painful crawl as vehicles inch forward in serpentine queues, especially on Sundays.

Though the Highway features seven toll gates, only four are currently operational, leading to long waits and widespread frustration. Many commuters have taken to social media platforms like 'X' to vent their anger, highlighting poor toll management and a lack of preparedness.

Despite its modern infrastructure, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has come under fire for failing to deploy adequate staff and systems to handle the weekend rush.

Travellers have called out the agency for poor planning and ineffective crowd control.

To make matters worse, NHAI increased toll charges in April this year, adding to the financial burden on weekend travellers. As per the revised rates:

- **From Bengaluru to Nidaghatta:** Rs. 180 (one way), Rs. 270 (round trip within 24 hours).
- **From Nidaghatta to Mysuru:** Rs. 175 (one way), Rs. 260 (round trip within 24 hours).
- **Total round-trip toll:** Rs. 530 within 24 hours.

Separate tariffs apply for light commercial vehicles, minibuses, trucks and buses.

With no relief in sight, commuters are demanding urgent intervention from NHAI.

Suggestions include: Better FASTag sensor systems, deployment of additional toll collection staff, opening all toll gates during peak hours and emergency contingency measures to ease congestion. With NH-275 being one of the busiest routes in the State, authorities are under mounting pressure to act swiftly and restore smooth vehicular movement.

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ON THE OCCASION OF
MARRIAGE
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16th May to 1st June 2025 | Time : 10.30 am - 8.30 pm
Nanjaraj Bahaddur Choultry
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Entry Free | All Credit & Debit Cards Accepted | Contact : 63641 65152, 98977 09954
Exclusive
Wedding
Collections

Kodagu braces for heavy rains

Fire extinguishing scenes from the mock drill held at Harangi Dam.

(Continued from page 1)

The District Administration has pro-actively established 83 relief centres across the district and arranged temporary shelters for all 2,955 families living in high-risk zones.

Madikeri taluk, which houses the district headquarters, has the highest number of at-risk residential areas at 44, followed by Kushalnagar with 30, Virajpet with 18 and Somwarpet with 10.

Vulnerability mapping

Speaking to *Star of Mysore,* Kodagu District Disaster Management Officer R.M. Ananya Vasudev said that the vulnerable zones were identified based on geological and seismic studies conducted by the Geological Survey of India (GSI) and the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre (KSNDMC).

"We began this vulnerability mapping in 2018 and 2019 when disasters struck Kodagu. The data is being updated regularly and will continue to be monitored over the next 10 years. Villages will be added or removed from the list based on risk factors and the occurrence of fresh disasters," he said.

The 88 villages have been grouped into 16 hoblis, each assigned a district-level Nodal Officer and a village-level Assistant Nodal Officer. "These Assistant Nodal Officers are physically inspecting the relief centres to ensure all basic amenities like food, shelter and toilets are in place. If any centre fails to meet requirements, alternative arrangements are being made," Vasudev added. Unlike in previous years, the Administration will not issue advance notices asking residents in vulnerable areas to shift. "This year, evacuations will only be carried out once alerts are received from the IMD or KSNDMC," he said.

To enhance preparedness and public confidence, the district has set up a 24x7 Emergency Helpline (08272-221077 / 08272-221099) and a dedicated WhatsApp number (85500-01077) for residents to share photos, request help or send alerts.

A National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) team is expected to arrive in Kodagu shortly, following a formal request by State Government, Vasudev confirmed.

'Monsoon to be normal, not excessive'

Kushalnagar, May 18 (AG& BCT)- Contrary to the India Meteorological Department's (IMD) forecast of above-average heavy to very heavy rainfall this South-West Monsoon, retired **Deputy Director-General of the Geological Survey of India (GSI), Dr. H.S.M. Prakash,** has predicted a normal monsoon for 2025, with a possibility of even below-average rainfall.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore,* Dr. Prakash pointed out that, unlike in 2018 and 2019, when Kodagu experienced severe floods and landslides, there has been no volcanic activity in the Arabian Sea or Bay of Bengal this year.

"In 2018 and 2019, volcanic eruptions in these regions led to intense heat, which contributed to the formation of rain-bearing clouds. This year, however, no such activity has been observed. Without volcanic heat, the likelihood of cloud formation & heavy rainfall is minimal," he explained.

Dr. Prakash expressed confidence in his scientific assessment and cast doubts on the reliability of the IMD's prediction methods. "My forecast is based on direct scientific analysis of atmospheric and geological conditions. The IMD, however, relies on modules, algorithms and historical data patterns, which are system-based and prone to errors," he said.

According to him, the absence of tell-tale geological and atmospheric signs indicates that the 2025 monsoon may fall within normal limits — or even below expectations.

ISRO's PSLV-C61/EOS-09 launch mission fails

Sriharikota, May 18 (Agencies)- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) this morning launched its 101st satellite, EOS-09, aboard the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C61), but it failed minutes later.

The 101st launch was done with PSLV-C61, carrying an Earth Observation Satellite, named as EOS-09, that was to be put in a Sun Synchronous Polar Orbit (SSPO). However, the EOS-09 mission could not be accomplished. According to the ISRO Chief, the PSLV 4-stage vehicle and performance was normal till the second stage.

"We will come back after analysis," he said.

The space agency, in a post on X, said, "Today 101st launch was attempted, PSLV-C61 performance was normal till 2nd stage. Due to an observation in the 3rd stage, the mission could not be accomplished."

The third stage motor started perfectly but during the functioning of the third stage, ISRO saw an observation and the mission could not be accomplished, he added. The third stage is a solid motor system.

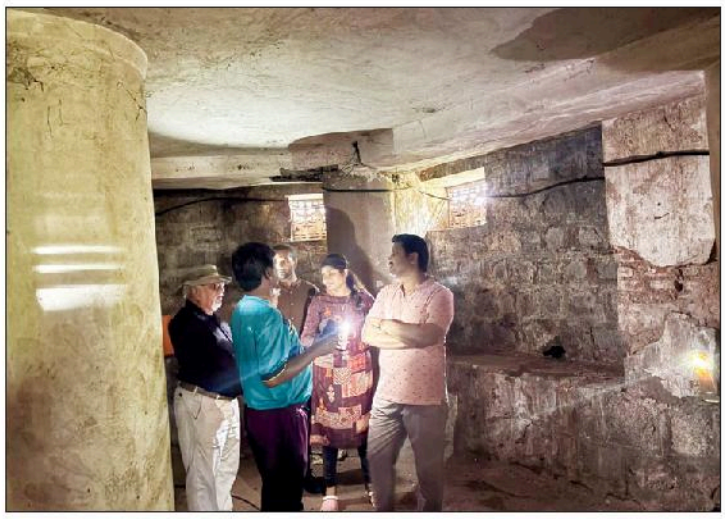
"...and the motor pressure--there was a fall in the chamber pressure of the motor case and the mission could not be accomplished. We are studying the entire performance," ISRO Chairman V. Narayanan added.

Notably, this launch was also aligned with promoting sustainability and carrying out responsible space operations, as the EOS-09 is equipped with deorbiting fuel for safely disposing it off after the mission.

This is the 63rd flight of the PSLV rocket, and the 27th using the PSLV-XL, completing a total 100 launches before May 18. "This mission continues the PSLV's record of delivering reliable performance across a wide range of payloads and orbits," read a statement from ISRO.

EOS-09 is an advanced Earth observation satellite equipped with C-band synthetic aperture radar technology. It can capture high-resolution images of the Earth's surface under all weather conditions, day or night. This capability enhances India's surveillance and management systems across multiple sectors.

Clock Tower restoration



The inner section of the Clock Tower where the decorative pillar-like structures were removed during restoration.

(Continued from page 1)

On hearing this, MCC Commissioner Tanveer Asif directed Assistant Executive Engineer Venkatesh to immediately restore these decorative elements. Sources told *Star of Mysore* that the contractor had not completed the work due to pending payments from MCC. The Commissioner has now ordered the release of payments to resume work promptly.

Additionally, Prof. Rangaraju pointed out the absence of a functional earthing system, vital for protection against lightning strikes. Citing the 1794 Mysore Palace fire as a cautionary example, he stressed that the disconnected earthing should have been restored during renovation but was overlooked, compromising safety.

Officials confirmed the earthing system has since been reinstated. Prof. Rangaraju also highlighted that the blue light atop the tower was non-functional and will be repaired in the coming days.

He also highlighted that at the top of the tower, there is a large brass bell imported from France. When struck by the hammer, it produces a melodious sound that once attracted many nearby tourists. Previously, the bell's chime could be heard from up to 2 kilometres away. Prof. Rangaraju appealed to the Commissioner to restore the bell to its former glory.

The inspection also noted the displacement of the historic "zero milestone" slab at Ashoka Road junction, once the central reference point for Mysuru's distances. The Commissioner instructed officials to locate and restore the slab. Prof. Rangaraju offered to provide the slab's design for reference.

At K.R. Circle, Prof. Rangaraju warned that the foundation of the Krishnaraja Wadiyar statue circle was weakening due to rusting iron at its base, caused by water from plant irrigation and rains.

Steep fall in dengue, chikungunya cases

Dr. Suvarna, District Vector Borne Disease Control Officer, addressing the gathering during National Dengue Day celebrations at PHC, HHMG Dispensary, Mysuru recently as former Corporators Chayadevi and Rajani Annaiah and others look on. Picture right shows a demonstration of larvae and fogging machine used to destroy mosquitoes.

Mysuru, May 18 (BS)- Insofar, there has been a sharp decline in the number of dengue and chikungunya cases reported in Mysuru district, the people can heave a sigh of relief.

The Office of District Vector Borne Disease Control Officer, Mysuru district, has released the statistics of the insect borne diseases reported for five years. In the ongoing year, 15 cases of dengue have been reported with zero fatality rate, while 38 of Chikungunya cases have been reported. In 2024, there were 946 dengue cases and one death, 186 Chikungunya cases. In 2023, there were 702 dengue cases, with zero fatality rate and 219 Chikungunya cases. In the year 2022, a total of 789 dengue cases and 103 chikungunya cases were reported, with zero deaths.

In the recently held National Dengue Day celebrations at the city's Primary Health Centre (PHC), His Highness Maharaja Bodyguard Dispensary (HHMBG), District Vector Borne Disease Control Officer Dr. Suvarna said, one should keep the surroundings clean to lead a healthy life, away from contacting dengue fever.

Calling for the concerted efforts involving the elected representatives, Dr. Suvarna stressed on creating awareness about the virus among the public.

"The larvae survey is conducted on every Friday at all the PHC limits. The instances of catching dengue fever can be prevented by destroying the larve, that contribute to the growth of mosquitoes. If anyone suffers from dengue related symptoms, they should take treatment from a nearby hospital," said Dr. Suvarna.

Forme Corporators Rajani Annaiah and Chayadevi and entomologist Usha took part in the programme, representing the State-level. From the district level, District RCH Officer Dr. Mohammed Shiraz Ahmed, Taluk Health Officer Dr. Puttathayamma, Medical Officer of PHC Dr. Naveen, Health Education Officers Muneendramma and Padmavathi, district-level officers, supervisors, ASHA workers and Primary Health Care Officer (PHCO) took part in the event.

Precautions against Dengue, Chikungunya

Health and Family Welfare Department has taken up several precautions to prevent and control the spread of Dengue and Chikungunya fevers.

1. Door-to-door visits to inspect the water tanks in and outside the premises, to check whether the larvae are found. If yes, the water tank will be emptied, cleaned and kept dry, before reusing the same. Besides, the households will be educated to clean the tank every alternative day. A insecticide named Temephos will be sprayed on the abandoned water containers.

2. Regular survey of Aedes mosquito by undertaking door-to-door visits.

3. On the first and third Friday of every month, the Field Staff Workers shall be deputed to conduct larvae survey and fever study.

4. The volunteers with honorarium, will be involved in the larvae survey and engaged in imparting health awareness measures among the public, at those areas where more number of dengue cases are reported.

5. Free test of blood samples collected from suspected Dengue and Chikungunya patients, at the Central Surveillance Laboratory at the premises of District Hospital in Metagalli.

6. The distribution of pamphlets among the public, along with holding group meetings, interaction and the posters to create awareness, to facilitate publicity in visual media and print media.

7. Encourage to observe every Sunday as Dry Day and hold Information, Education and Communication (IEC) programmes in association with the other departments.

8. At schools, the pictures of larvae will be displayed for the benefit of educating children, along with the preventive steps.

9. The windows of Government hospitals are covered with mosquito screens and the mosquito nets are distributed among in-patients and created awareness about personal safety measures and other matters of importance.

10. The Science teachers are summoned for Dengue and Chikungunya Advocacy Meeting and comprehensive details are provided to create awareness among the children.

11. The City Municipal Council (CMC), Town Panchayat (TP) officials and Panchayat Development Officers (PDO) will be attending Dengue and Chikungunya Advocacy Meeting, to provide comprehensive details to them to take regulatory measures at their level.

12. Every July is observed as Dengue Awareness Month and health awareness is created among the public.

13. TV scrollings produced to provide information on preventive steps and the role of the public in containing the Dengue and Chikungunya viruses.

Legislators make donation under Divyachetana S.M. Krishna Endowment Fund

Mysuru, May 18 (RK&TRR)- An Endowment Fund has been created in the name of former Chief Minister S.M. Krishna to preserve his legacy and it is named as Divyachetana S.M. Krishna Endowment Fund.

Maddur MLA K.M. Uday donated Rs. 10 lakh under the Endowment Fund to University of Mysore (UoM) to award Gold Medals to first two toppers in the examinations and MLC Dinesh Gooligowda donated to Rs. 5 lakh to city Sri Ramakrishna Ashram to award a Gold Medal to a student who scores highest marks in the examinations.

While MLA Uday gave DD to VC of University of Mysore Prof. N.K. Lokanath, MLC Dinesh Gooligowda handed over the DD to Swami Muktidanandaji of Sri Ramakrishna Ashram.

Eight such donation funds have been instituted in S.M. Krishna's name by the elected representatives and admirers of S.M. Krishna from Mandya district. The interest accrued from the funds will be used annually to honour meritorious students, farmers and achievers from various fields.

Speaking on the occasion both the leaders hailed the contributions of S.M. Krishna to both the state and nation. Former MLC D. Madegowda, leaders Vikranth P. Devegowda, H.A. Venkatesh and others were present.

LPG blast: Three houses gutted in accidental fire

Mysuru, May 18 (KS)- Three houses were completely gutted in an accidental fire at Bore Anandur village in the taluk yesterday.

The houses, which were destroyed, belonged to Shanivaregowda, Venkateshgowda and Srinivasagowda of the village.

Household items worth lakhs of rupees kept in the three houses have been destroyed. Luckily, no one was injured as there were nobody at the three houses at the time when the fire broke out.

Fire and Emergency Services personnel from Saraswathipuram, Hebbal and Srirangapatna Fire Stations, who rushed to the spot along with fire extinguishing vehicles, managed to douse the fire and prevented it from spreading further.

It is suspected that a LPG cylinder blast may have triggered the fire but the exact cause for the fire is yet to be ascertained.

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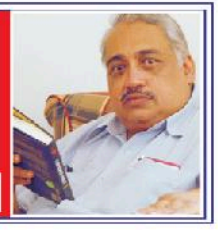
Dr. Kishore Murthy
Advisor, Hospital Management Consultant
FMR Director, Shankara Cancer Hospital
FMR Director, IHMR & SJMCH, Bangalore
Mail: kishoremurthykm@gmail.com
Mobile: 98808 23557

Over a cup of evening Tea



By Dr. K. Javeed Nayeem, MD

A Re-Look at Our Green Heritage

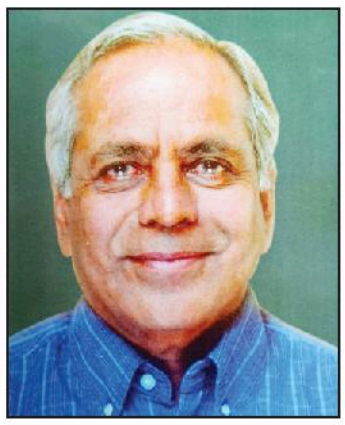
The trees in and around our city have been in the news, sadly for some very wrong and unhappy reasons, over the past one month. The tragic and very avoidable loss of some of them, has thankfully galvanised a few concerned Mysureans into thinking of not only just protecting the existing ones but also of planting new ones to augment our green heritage, which is the best thing that we can do to ourselves and our posterity too.

Very recently, some residents of the city even had a meeting and a discussion that included an interaction with a knowledgeable tree expert, **S. Natesh** to prepare a checklist of the trees in our city and chalk out a strategy to protect and propagate them.

This I feel was a very timely and sensible move, considering the fact that the resource person, Natesh is a very well-known and knowledgeable botanist who has written a very informative book called ***Iconic Trees of India,*** a handbook which every tree lover or naturalist should possess, as a travel companion.

It is interesting to note that there are some very rare trees in and around our city and an attempt to catalogue them and record their locations had already been made more than two decades ago, by my close friend K.B Sadanand, who passed away a little more than a decade ago. He too was a very good naturalist, who used to take a great deal of interest in conducting nature walks for school and college students and interested citizens too.

Our friendship had grown strong over the years because of our two common interests, Botany and Photography. We used to meet regularly and exchange notes at length, at the **Rainbow Colour Lab** on Ashoka Road, owned by another common friend **S.A. Waheed,** who too is no more. **Along with my own teacher and Botany Professor, K.V. Joseph at St. Philomena's College, Sa-**



K.B. Sadanand, Botanist

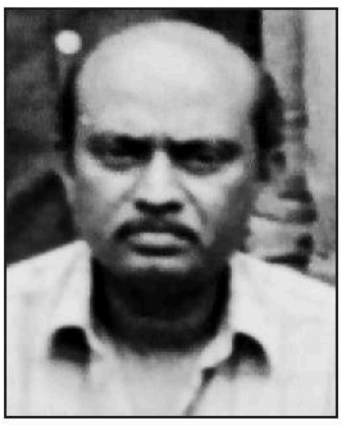
[Pic. courtesy: Prof. S. Ramaprasad]

danand was my go-to person, whenever I needed help in identifying the many botanical specimens that I was in the habit of collecting and preserving, even long after my college days.

Thankfully, this rather odd habit has not left me to this day and in fact, it now actually borders on becoming qualified to be called a quirk! So, I always come back home from all my local travels, loaded with leaves, twigs, shoots and seeds. Sadly, this activity has its own restrictions when it comes to international travel, due to the strict quarantine stipulations.

Sadanand had prepared two lists of all the rare trees in and around our city, highlighting their characteristics, identifying features and geographic locations. Thankfully, both these are still readily available on the net. **What stands out in these two lists is the fact that a good many of these very rare trees are found only in the campus of Sri Ramakrishna Vidyashala, which not only becomes a matter of pride for that institution but also a tribute to the foresighted efforts of all the stalwarts who have nurtured and brought it up over the years.**

Talking of rare trees and my own fascination for them, takes me back to my school days at St. Philomena's High school, when we had the book, ***The Coral Island,*** as our English non-detailed text, in the eighth standard. That book, written in 1857 by the Scottish writer **R.M. Ballantyne,** still lives in



M. Manuel, English teacher

me and I still live in it so much that I keep reading it again and again, every few years, just to refresh the joy that comes out of it! That was the kind of magic it had cast on me with its portrayal of the adventures of three young British schoolboys marooned on a tiny South Pacific Island, after a shipwreck.

Part of the magic was due to the element of adventure that was inherent in the book and an equal part of it was due to the way our English teacher, Mr. M. Manuel explained and elaborated every incident, every twist and turn and even mentally portrayed for us, every scene in the story, over a term of one full year.

The three boys discover many coconut trees on the island, hitherto unseen by them on mainland Britain and are thrilled that such trees exist which provide ready-made lemonade which they can drink and sweet coconut pulp which they can eat too! But my classmates and I were mighty amused and surprised that they had not seen such a commonplace tree like a coconut palm, in their land!

The second tree they discover growing in abundance on the island is the breadfruit tree, which can provide the staff-of-life to them. The discovery of these two trees dramatically turns their despair into hope, with the knowledge that they can now somehow survive, until help comes their way. **And, with this turn of events in the story, my own gnawing anxiety about the ultimate fate of those three boys, suddenly turned to hope!** But, since I had never seen a breadfruit tree in my life till then, the mention of a tree from which bread could be plucked and eaten, seemed simply fantastic and I was now fired with overpowering desire to see it.

So, after the end of that class, I approached my teacher and asked him if such a breadfruit tree really existed and where I could see one. After a log pause, during which he held his hand to his chin and looked down at the ground, he asked me to come to his house, the next Sunday at five in the evening. I thought that he might show me a picture of that tree in a book he might be having and at the stroke of five on Sunday, I went to his house, which was on my way to the school and which still stands there unchanged, to this day.

On finding me at his door, he brought out his old bicycle, mounted it and with a disarming smile, asked me to hop on its carrier. He then pedalled towards the Bangalore Road, past the Central Jail, which was then the extreme northern end of the city and into the campus of St. Philomena's College, a good one mile away. Once there, he took me into the tiny quadrangle of the main building and showed me a sprawling tree, with large, lobed leaves and round spiny fruits, that resembled miniature jack fruits and announced that it was my own breadfruit tree!

He then told me that the building where we were standing was the home of **Rev. Fr. Rene Feuga,** the first Bishop of Mysore, who donated it to start the college there. Little did I know then that I was standing on some very hallowed ground, which, in just a few years, would become my **Alma Mater** too! **That was then my own Coral Island and my own South Sea adventure, thanks to the kindness of a teacher who thought that one curious student's pleasure, was worth all his pain! May his noble soul rest in peace. *Amen!***

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Internal quota among SCs

Deadline for survey extended till May 25

Bengaluru, May 18- The State Government on Friday announced that the ongoing door-to-door survey to obtain empirical data of Scheduled Castes (SCs), which was scheduled to conclude on May 17, has been extended till May 25.

Accordingly, extensions have been provided for special camps and on-line self declaration. The special camps, initially scheduled from May 19 to 21 will be held from May 26 to 28.

The on-line self declaration, that was scheduled from May 19 to 23, will be held from May 19 to 28.

While more than 70 percent of the households have been covered in the comprehensive survey of Scheduled Castes/ Sub-castes, 2025, the lag in Bengaluru is one of the reasons for extension of the deadline to provide enumerators more time to cover families.

According to Justice Nagmohan Das, who heads the One-man Commission to decide on internal reservation for SCs, some 19.55 lakh households of about a projected 25.72 lakh SC households in Karnataka have been covered in the survey. Around 78 lakh people out of the projected 1.17 crore population has been covered, he added.

"We have sought information on political representation from the Panchayat level to Parliament. Wherever the information is incomplete, notices have been sent," Justice Das said adding that the Union Government had sought the survey's methodology, for which reply has been sent.

Diploma Nursery Teacher Training

Mysuru, May 18- The Rastriya Computer Saksharatha Samithi (RCSS), Mysuru Division, has invited applications for Diploma Nursery Teacher Training in compliance with the Central and State Governments for the year 2025-26.

Those aged 18 to 55 years and have a post-SSL qualification are eligible to learn the Montessori education system, pre-primary training dimensions, child development, early child education, health and nutrition, computer training during the course. There are special classes for housewives, working women, and rural students and the training will be conducted online also.

Applications are available at SSIT Solutions, Ramakrishnanagar, Mysuru.

For details, contact Mob: 83103-06882 or 96868-55470 before May 25.

Tibetans take out protest rally in city

Mysuru, May 18 (GA&BS)- Members of the Regional Tibetan Youth Congress, Regional Tibetan Women's Congress and Tibetan Students Organisation, staged a protest in front of Kote Anjaneyaswamy Temple, Mysore Palace North Gate, in the city yesterday, demanding information about the mysterious disappearance of Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, the 11th Panchen Lama of Tibet.

The Tibetans from Kollegal, Hunsur and Bylakuppe and Monks from Tashi Lhunpo Monastery, waving Tibetan flags, later took out a rally till the Deputy Commissioner's office.

The Chinese Government had illegally arrested Panchen Lama in the year 1995. Following which, Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama had identified Gedhun Choekyi Nyima as the 11th Panchen Lama. However, Nyima, when he was seven-year-old and his family members had been kidnapped by the Chinese Government. It's been over three decades and there has been no credible information about his whereabouts since then.

Despite mediation at the international level, the Chinese Government is not providing the information. If he were to be alive, he would be 39-year-old, but remains in house arrest since over three decades. He remains devoid of education in Buddhist religious rituals. The Chinese authorities should clear the doubts among the community members and release Panchen Lama at the earliest to facilitate to lead a normal life.

Many other Tibetans remain under house arrest since then and they too should be released. Most importantly, the Chinese authorities should consent for holding the talks under the leadership of the Dalai Lama, to find solutions to the long pending issues plaguing the very community.

Hunsur Regional Tibetan Yough Congress' Tsering Lukyap Janhil, Chemi Lhamo of Tibetan Women's Organisation, Tsering Dorje Chung and Tsering Chodon of Kollegal Tibetan Camp and Thamdyn Tsewang of Hunsur Tibetan Camp were present.

'Apart from Pakistan, India has to battle antagonists within'

Prathap Simha

Mysuru, May 18 (BLU&DM)- Strongly condemning the statements made by some Congress leaders of the State regarding the ceasefire between the two countries, former MP Prathap Simha said that India, apart from taking on Pakistan, has to battle the antagonists *(Hitashatru)* within.

Speaking to press persons here yesterday, Prathap Simha took strong exception to Minister Santosh Lad's adverse comment against Prime Minister Modi regarding the Indo-Pak ceasefire.

Accusing two Ministers (Santosh Lad and Priyank Kharge) of cawing (cry of a crow) everyday, Simha said that these Ministers do not know what they are speaking about.

Alleging that Minister Santosh Lad, who is a Maratha, instead of roaring like Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, is speaking like Abdul Khan, a Muslim leader, Simha said that by speaking so, Lad must have thought that he is a scholarly man. But the fact is that he cannot understand what he himself speaks, he ridiculed.

Questioning Lad whether he is intelligent enough to advise Modi, Simha said that Lad should understand that it was PM Modi-led Central Government which made all the arrangements to bring back Kannadigas from Pahalgam, after terrorists targeted Hindu tourists, killing 26 of them.

Asking Lad to stop making nonsense statements against the PM, he challenged the Minister to come up with facts on the Health Kits scam that is said to have occurred in the Labour Department, which portfolio he holds.

Accusing Lad of speaking arrogantly just because of the illegal money earned from mining, Simha said that by making loose comments on Modi, Lad wants to show to the world that he is honest, which, however, is ignored by the people.

Venting out his ire against Kolar Congress MLA Kothur Manjunath for making loose comments on India's attack on Pak terror bases with the conduct of 'Operation Sindoor,' he sarcastically said that perhaps Manjunath does not know the difference between 'Sindoor' and 'Sindhuri.'

Stating that Manjunath only knows about Real Estate matters and nothing else, Simha said that most Congress leaders do not have any understanding of the country and also about war against enemy countries.

JD(S) MLCs demand action against Congress MLA Kothur Manjunath

Manjegowda

Sharavana

Mysuru, May 18- JD(S) MLC C.N. Manjegowda has slammed Congress MLA Kothur Manjunath for belittling Operation Sindoor carried out by Indian Armed Forces. Manjegowda said that the Congress party must dismiss Manjunath for his remarks against the armed forces.

Stating that Operation Sindoor was carried as a retaliation of Pahalgram terror attack in which 26 tourists were killed, Manjegowda said that Manjunath's statements, expressing scepticism and effectiveness of the operation, were insensitive.

He also sought clarification whether the Congress party would stand as a support to the statements made by MLA Manjunath.

Meanwhile, MLC T.A. Sharavana also criticised MLA Manjunath over his remarks and said that the MLA was unaware of the agony caused to families who lost innocent lives in ghastly attack.

Citing increasing crime incidents in Karavali region, Sharavana said that the State Govt. had lost control over the law and order in the State adding that intelligence had failed in the State. Sharavana,who stated that Congress party had no moral rights to question the integrity of the India Armed Forces when it had failed maintain the law and order in the State, demanded action against MLA Kothur Manjunath.

KRRS stages demonstration against Amusement Park and Cauvery Arati

Mandya, May 18- Strongly opposing the Government's plans for establishing an Amusement Park and conducting of 'Cauvery Arati' on the lines of Ganga Arati, at KRS in Srirangapatna taluk, farmers under the banner of Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha (KRRS) staged a demonstration in front of the DC's office at Mandya on Saturday.

Raising slogans against the Government, the farmers urged the Govt. to drop its plans of setting up Amusement Park and 'Cauvery Arati' at KRS and use the funds meant for these projects for modernisation of canals and development of agriculture.

They also demanded that 8.5 percent yield should be considered while fixing FRP (Fair and Remunerative Price) for Sugarcane, payment of Rs. 500 per tonne as incentive for Sugarcane, scrapping of the three Farm Laws, setting up of permanent Paddy and Ragi Procurement Centres and implementation of the recommendations of Rangarajan Committee Report on Sugarcane by-products, among others.

KRRS State President Badagalapura Nagendra, Mandya District President A.L. Kempugowda, office-bearers G.S. Lingappaji, S.K. Ravikumar, Borapura Shankaregowda, Devaraj, Shivarudra, Vinodbabu, Manju, Raghugowda, Vijaykumar, Annaiah, Rudresh, Mamatha, Rani, Leela and others were present.

Anganwadi Workers, Helpers demand gratuity

Mysuru, May 18 (MK&VNS)- Anganwadi Workers and Helpers held demonstration in front of the DC's office demanding for gratuity benefits, here yesterday.

Members of Federation of Anganwadi Workers and Helpers Associations said that Supreme Court had passed an order stating that the Anganwadi Workers and Helpers were eligible for gratuity benefits under The Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972.

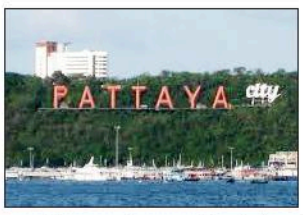
It has been 50 years since Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme was launched. Following this, many Workers and Helpers have retired since 2011-12 who should be extended gratuity benefits.

"Many Workers and Helpers have passed away or they are facing health issues owing to old age. The State Government must come to their rescue. The Government should revoke its decision of providing gratuity for those retired after 2023. Also, benefits should be extended to all those who had retired since 2011-12," they said.

Federation District President P.M. Sarojamma, General Secretary Mahadevamma, Treasurer Girija and others were present during the protest.

WORD OF THE DAY

Junket



Pronunciation: JUNK-ut (noun).
Meaning: Junket refers to a trip that is paid for by someone else, such as a promotional trip made at another's expense, or an official's trip made at public expense.
Origin: Junket has travelled a long road, and its journey began with a basket made of rushes—that is, marsh plants commonly used in weaving and basketwork. The Latin word for "rush" is juncus, which English borrowed and adapted into various forms until settling on junket. That word was used in English to name not just the plant and the baskets made from the plant, but also a type of cream cheese made in rush baskets. Since at least the 15th century, the word has named a variety of comestibles, ranging from curds and cream to sweet confections. By 16th century, junket had come to mean "banquet" or "feast" as well. Apparently, traveling must have been involved to reach some junkets because eventually the term broadened to apply to pleasure outings or trips, whether or not food was the focus. Today, the word usually refers either to a trip made by a government official and paid for by public, or to a free trip by a member of the press to a place where something, such as a new movie, is being promoted.
Example: "... our regents are doing nothing to curtail expectation that presidents and schools must pay dearly for board members to attend obscenely expensive junkets & entertain them while they're doing taxpayers' business." —Janelle Stecklein, The Oklahoman Online (Oklahoma City, OK), 7 Apr. 2025.

THE ODD WORD

Janizary

A follower or supporter.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Jump the Gun

Meaning: The phrase 'Jump the Gun' means to start something before you should.
Origin: Most racers are very careful about making false starts. The origin of 'Jump the Gun' is early 20th century track and field races, and a printed example from Crowther and Ruhl's Rowing and Track Athletics in 1905, states: "False starts were rarely penalised, the pistol generally followed immediately on the signal 'Get set!' and so shiftless were the starters and officials that 'beating the pistol' was one of the tricks which less sportsmanlike runners constantly practiced." The earliest printed example of the term in use as an idiom comes from the November 1921 issue of The Iowa Homestead: "Give the pigs a good start; jump the gun, so to speak, and get them on a grain ration before weaning time."
Example: "Victor really jumped the gun with his project proposal- he should have waited until the other proposal was either accepted or rejected."

QUOTE BOX

You don't live on earth, you are passing through. **—Rumi**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

teath

Answer :False Teeth.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

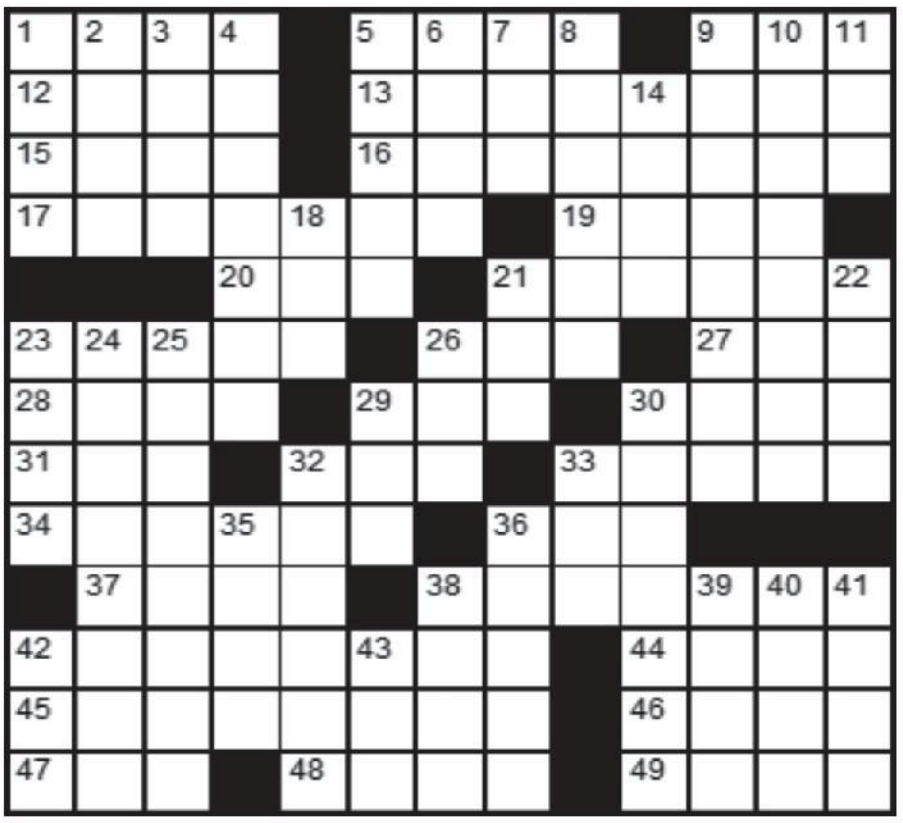
1 Painful emotion
5 Mischievous children
9 Sgt., e.g.
12 Lamb's nom-de-plume
13 Benchmark
15 Bollywood's ___ Agnihotri
16 Magnified
17 Disentangle
19 Thoroughfare
20 Fr. holy title
21 Formulator of the laws of planetary movement
23 Scandinavian stories
26 Boy's name,in short
27 __ Malik : music director of Kareeb and Suraksha
28 Act in accordance with the order of others
29 Man
30 Move slowly
31 Gloating cry
32 Vada ___ : Mumbai's favourite snack
33 ___ foot : in the way?
34 Seasonable or opportune
36 Choose
37 One million: 'pref.'
38 Felt deep sorrow
42 Underground cemetery
44 Exploding star
45 Ex-India and Mumbai batsman Dilip ___
46 Progressed in water
47 Some - no matter which
48 Despatched - "nest" anagram?
49 Labourer of yore

DOWN

1 Lima is its capital city
2 Ex-England wicket keeper Knott
3 Eggs of insects
4 Contradict
5 Rhone River feeder
6 Tel ser. provider in New Delhi and Mumbai
7 Friend or chum
8 Small drums
9 North Eastern state
10 Belief
11 Strange or uncommon
14 Loose altitude
18 Air Transport Sys.
21 Lock opener
22 German river
23 Fine black powder?
24 Amitabh and Jaya starrer
25 Branch of mathematics
26 Son of Lord Rama and Sita
29 Merry and bright
30 Concentrated
32 Locations
33 United Payments Interface abbr
35 A slang word uttered in amazement or surprise
36 Planetary path
38 FBI agent (slang) (1-3)
39 Promises
40 A Welsh boy's name
41 Title for a titled lady?
42 US Civil war side, in short
43 Sugar suffix ?

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

I	M	A	■	B	L	E	W	■	K	E	G	S
D	A	L	■	H	O	L	I	■	I	P	A	D
E	Y	E	B	A	L	L	S	■	S	I	M	I
M	A	G	O	G	■	S	E	C	T	■	■	■
■	■	■	A	I	M	■	R	U	N	O	F	F
S	T	I	R	R	E	D	■	R	A	W	E	R
N	U	N	■	A	L	D	E	R	■	E	L	E
U	B	O	A	T	■	T	R	E	A	D	L	E
G	A	N	D	H	I	■	A	N	G	■	■	■
■	■	■	H	I	L	O	■	C	O	R	P	S
U	E	L	E	■	I	N	D	I	G	E	N	T
F	E	A	R	■	A	L	E	E	■	D	I	Y
O	L	P	E	■	D	Y	E	S	■	O	N	E



SUDOKU

6					8		7	5
5				1				
		4	6				3	
	2		9					
		1				3		
					4		9	
	6				1	8		
				9				2
8	3		4					1

Answer to previous puzzle

2	3	7	9	6	1	8	5	4
8	5	9	3	4	7	1	6	2
1	6	4	8	5	2	9	3	7
9	7	6	4	1	8	5	2	3
5	2	8	6	3	9	7	4	1
4	1	3	2	7	5	6	8	9
3	9	1	5	8	4	2	7	6
7	4	5	1	2	6	3	9	8
6	8	2	7	9	3	4	1	5

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

LJ HFVEAS PGOJ MGZJ CVP PV YGOJ PFJ BCPJAAJMP

VEZ TVS; BP FGH, VQ MVEZHJ, UVLJZQEA

YEHMAJH, KEP CV UJZHVCGABPN.

TODAY'S CLUE: P EQUALS T

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: We should remember our dying and try so to live that our death brings no pleasure in the world

Silk India-2025 expo till June 1

Actress Risha Gowda** (centre), **who formally inaugurated the Silk India-2025 saree exhibition, organised by Abhivruddhi at Nanjaraja Bahadur Choultry on Vinoba Road in city on May 17, is seen taking a look atthe sarees on display. The expo will be open between 10.30 am and 8.30 pmtill June 1.

MOVIE LOVERS

NOW SHOWING - SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

- **Padma Theatre** — **Ph: 2521923**
  Maaman (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** — **Ph: 2420885**
  Yuddhakaanda Chapter 2 (K) - 4 Shows
- **Prabha Theatre** — **Mob: 98454-14691**
  Bhagiratha (K) - 4 Shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** — **Ph: 2422871**
  Mission: Impossible - The Final Reckoning (E) - 4 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** — **Mob: 99008-20093**
  Dee (K) - 4 Shows
- **Sangam Theatre** — **Ph: 2520494**
  Retro (K) - 4 Shows
- **Gayathri Theatre** — **Ph: 2443568**
  Takila (K) - 4 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** — **Ph: 2423554**
  Devil's Double Next Level (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** — **Mob: 98863-25207**
  HIT: The Third Case (H) - 3 Shows

DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Final Destination Bloodlines (E)	(S-1)	10.30 am, 7.30 pm
	(S-3)	10.05 pm
HIT: The Third Case (Te)	(S-1)	12.50 pm
Mission: Impossible - The Final Reckoning (E)	(S-1)	4 pm, 9.55 pm; (S-4) 9.40 am
	(S-4)	1 pm, 4.30 pm, 7, 10.25 pm
Maaman (Ta)	(S-2)	12.55 pm
Yuddhakaanda Chapter 2 (K)	(S-2)	4 pm
Dee (K)	(S-2)	7 pm
Lovely (Ma-3D)	(S-2)	10.05 pm
Eleven (Ta)	(S-3)	10.40 am
Tourist Family (Ta)	(S-3)	1.30 pm
Devil's Double Next Level (Ta)	(S-3)	4.10 pm
Raid 2 (H)	(S-3)	7 pm

MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Mission: Impossible - The Final Reckoning (E)	:	10.30 am, 1 pm, 4.15, 7.30 pm
Maaman (Ta)	:	1.05 pm, 6.30 pm, 9.20 pm
Yuddhakaanda Chapter 2 (K)	:	1.20 pm
Eleven (Ta)	:	3.55 pm
Devil's Double Next Level (Ta)	:	4.05 pm, 6.40 pm, 9.15 pm
Thudarum (Ma)	:	7.00 pm

PVR CINEMAS — 4K Dolby 7.1

Nexus Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor. Ph: 0821-230 0402

Mission: Impossible - The Final Reckoning (E)	:	8:30 am, 9.55 am, 12 noon 1.05 pm, 3.05 pm, 3.30 pm 7 pm, 9.40 pm, 10.30 pm
Final Destination Bloodlines (E)	:	9 am, 12.35 pm, 2.10 pm 7.15 pm, 9.45 pm
Devil's Double Next Level (Te)	:	9.50 am, 7.15 pm
Devil's Double Next Level (Ta)	:	4.30 pm, 10 pm
Maaman (Ta)	:	10 am, 1.25 pm, 6.35 pm
Dee (K)	:	10.35 am
Thunderbolts (E)*	:	11.30 am
Shinchan: Our Dinosaur Diary (H)	:	1.35 pm
Yamadonga (Te)	:	3.50 pm
HIT: The Third Case (Te)	:	4.30 pm
Lovely (Ma-3D)	:	4.40 pm
Takila (K)	:	7.25 pm
Tourist Family (Ta)	:	7.40 pm
Hum Tum (H)	:	10.10 pm
Raid 2 (H)	:	10.20 pm

1st Floor, Garuda Mall. Mob: 88009 00009

Maaman (Ta)	:	9.25 am, 3.55 pm, 9.30 pm
Mission: Impossible - The Final Reckoning (E)	:	10 am, 12.45 pm, 4 pm 6 pm, 6.45 pm, 10.15 pm
Final Destination Bloodlines (E)	:	10.15 am, 1.30 pm, 4.15 pm 7.30 pm, 10 pm
Devil's Double Next Level (Ta)	:	10.25 am, 1.10 pm, 7 pm
Devil's Double Next Level (Te)	:	9.45 pm
Rhythm (K)	:	12.30 pm
Bande Saheb (K)	:	3.30 pm

EVENTS TODAY (MAY 18)

- **Abhivruddhi:** Silk India-2025 saree expo, Nanjaraja Bahadur Choultry, Vinoba Road, **up and 8.30 pm.**
- **Sri Srinivasa Swamy Temple, Tilak Nagar:** Sri Srinivasa Swamy Annual Celebrations, Mudi Utsava, Garudotsava, Temple premises, **6 pm.**
- **Sringeri Sri Shankar Mutt, Abhinava Shankaralaya, Mysuru:** 45th anniversary celebrations of consecration ceremony, Dashasahasra Tulasi Archane and Gurupaduke Puje; Vocal concert by Vid. M.G. Ranganath, Vid. Ratna Teja and Vid. Rakesh, **6.30 pm;** Rudrakramarchane, Vedaghosha, Mahamangalarati, Prasada Viniyoga, Mutt premises, **7.30 pm.**
- **Rangayana, Mysuru:** Puppet Show 'Rex Hours,' directed by Shravan Heggod, Bhoomigeeta, Rangayana, **6.30 pm.**
- **Abhiyenthararu:** Staging of play 'Marana Mrudanga,' written and directed by Rajendra Karanth, stage management by H.S. Suresh Babu, Mini Theatre, Kalamandira, **7 pm.**
- **Avadhoota Datta Peetham:** 4k Projection Mapping on 45-ft tall Karya Siddhi Hanuman statue, Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda (SGS) Ashram, Dattanagar, Nanjangud Road, **(3 Shows) 7.10 pm, 7.40 pm and 8.10 pm.** [Note: If rain or wind persists shows will be cancelled]

EVENTS TOMORROW (MAY 19)

- **Sri Srinivasa Swamy Temple, Tilak Nagar:** Sri Srinivasa Swamy Annual Celebrations, Mahabhisheka, **9 am;** Varshotsava, Temple premises, **7 pm.**
- **Abhivruddhi:** Silk India-2025 saree exhibition, Nanjaraja Bahadur Choultry, Vinoba Road, **10.30 am and 8.30 pm.**
- **Department of Physical Education (DPE), University of Mysore (UoM) and Bowlout Cricket Academy, Mysuru:** Women's Cricket Tournament, inauguration by UoM Vice-Chancellor Prof. N.K. Lokanath and Registrar M.K. Savitha; UoM DPE Director Dr. C. Venkatesh, KSCA Mysuru Convenor Hari Krishna Kumar and KSCA Mysuru Chairman Bal Chandar chief guests, SDNR Wadiyar Cricket Stadium, **11 am.**
- **JSS Law College:** Inauguration of Renovated Moot Court, Suttur Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji graces the occasion, Karnataka High Court Judge Justice E.S. Indiresh inaugurates, Karnataka State Law University VC Prof. (Dr.) C. Basavaraju presides, JSS Mahavidyapeetha Executive Secretary Dr. C.G. Betsurmath guest of honour, College premises, Kuvempunagar, **5 pm.**

INOX LIVE the MOVIE

Mall of Mysore - Mob: 78299-99465

Final Destination Bloodlines (E)	:	9.20 am, 4.20 pm 8 pm 10.30 pm
Maaman (Ta)	:	9.40 am, 1.15 pm 6.50 pm 10 pm
Mission: Impossible - The Final Reckoning (E)	:	9:45 am, 11.50 am, 12.50 pm 3.20 pm, 6.50 pm, 10.20 pm
Devil's Double Next Level (Ta)	:	10.25 am, 7.20 pm
Devil's Double Next Level (Te)	:	4.30 pm, 10.10 pm
HIT: The Third Case (K)	:	1.15 pm
Mandya (2006) (K)	:	4.25 pm

INOX Centro Mysore - Ph: 0821-4283555

Final Destination Bloodlines (E)	:	9.30 am, 2.10 pm 7.50 pm, 10.20 pm
Mission: Impossible - The Final Reckoning (E)	:	9.55 am, 12 noon, 3.30 pm 7 pm, 10 pm, 10.30 pm
Devil's Double Next Level (Ta)	:	10.40 am, 7.10 pm, 10 pm
Devil's Double Next Level (Te)	:	1.25 pm
Maaman (Ta)	:	11 am, 4.40 pm, 6.50 pm
Takila (K)	:	1.30 pm
Raid 2 (H)	:	4.15 pm
Bande Saheb (K)	:	4.20 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

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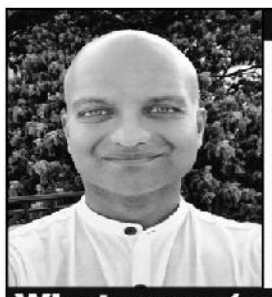

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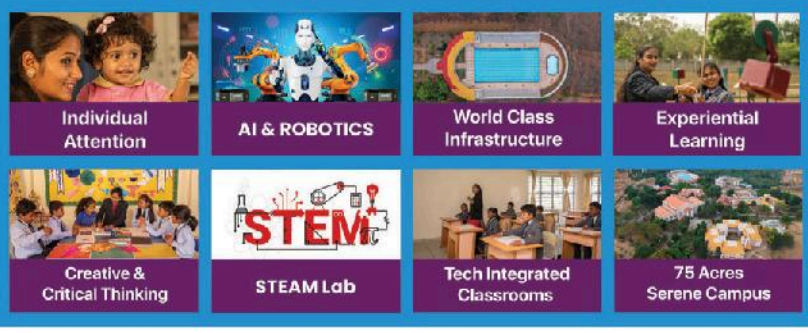

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